

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, as presently amended and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-4, 6-9, 11, 14, and 16-21 are currently pending. Claims 5, 10, 12, 13, and 15 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer; Claims 1, 4, 6, 9, 11, and 14 have been amended; and Claims 16-21 have been added by the present amendment. The changes and additions to the claims are supported by the originally filed specification and do not add new matter.

The amended and newly submitted claims are supported by the originally filed specification at least at page 11, line 13 to page 12, line 1; page 18, lines 10-21; page 19, lines 7-11; page 22, lines 2 and 3; page 22, line 15 to page 23, lines 9-11; page 24, line 21 to page 25, line 1; page 19, lines 20-22; page 32, lines 12-23; page 33, lines 6-10; page 21, lines 17-19; and Figures 10, 11A, 11C-11E, 13, 15, and 17.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 1-3, 5, 6, and 9-15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement; Claims 10-15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, regarding the use of the words if, when, as well as the alternative wording; Claims 1-3, 5, 6, and 9-15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention; Claims 4, 7, and 8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,745,944 to Dell (hereinafter “the ‘944 patent”); Claims 10-13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,898,706 to Venkatesan et al. (hereinafter “the ‘706 patent”); Claims 14 and 15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the ‘706 patent in view of the ‘944 patent; and Claims 1-3, 5, 6,

and 9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the '944 patent in view of the '706 patent.

Regarding the rejection of Claims 1-3, 5, 6, and 9-15 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, Claims 1, 4, 11, and 14 have been amended to clarify that the first identifier is written to read only memory, and that the visible information is printed on the storage medium support frame. Further, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of Claims 5, 10, 12, 13, and 15 is rendered moot by the present cancellation of those claims. Accordingly, the rejection of Claims 1-3, 5, 6, and 9-15 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, is believed to have been overcome.

Regarding the rejection of Claims 10-15 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of Claims 10, 12, and 13 are rendered moot by the present cancellation of those claims. Further, Claim 11 has been amended to remove the words if, when, as well as the alternative wording. Accordingly, the rejection of Claims 10-15 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, is believed to have been overcome.

Regarding the rejection of Claims 1-3, 5, 6, and 9-15 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as noted above, Claims 1, 4, 11, and 14 have been amended to clarify that the first identifier is written to read only memory, and that the visible information is printed on the storage medium support frame. Further, Claims 5, 10, 12, 13, and 15 have been canceled. Accordingly, the rejection of Claims 1-3, 5, 6, and 9-15 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, is believed to have been overcome.

Amended Claim 1 is directed to a storage device comprising:

a storage medium having a data area configured to write content data thereto and an identifier area configured to write an identifier thereto, the identifier area being read only memory; and

a storage medium support frame configured to hold the storage medium and provided with visible information that is printed on the storage medium support frame and corresponds to the identifier, the visible information being visible from the

outside and selected from the group consisting of a character, symbol, pattern, color, and combination of a character, symbol, pattern, and color.

Regarding the rejection of Claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), the '944 patent is directed to a system and method for identifying applications loaded in a smart card. In particular, the '944 patent discusses that a smart card having a display is provided, and that the card is capable of storing application programs and displaying symbols or logos of the stored application programs to allow a user to view currently available applications.¹

However, it is respectfully submitted that the '944 patent fails to disclose a storage medium having a data area configured to write content data thereto and an identifier area configured to write an identifier thereto, the identifier area being read only memory. Rather, as noted in the Office Action, the '944 patent simply discusses a smart card that includes a display that can display storage symbols of loaded application programs for easy identification by the user.² Further, the Office Action asserts that the '944 smart card and the display area correspond to the claimed storage medium and the identifier area, respectively.³ The '944 patent does not disclose that the display area is read only memory. Thus, the '944 patent does not disclose an identifier area configured to write an identifier thereto, *the identifier area being read only memory*.

Further, it is respectfully submitted that the '944 patent fails to disclose a storage medium support frame configured to hold the storage medium and provided with visible information that is printed on the storage medium support frame and corresponds to the identifier, the visible information being visible from the outside and selected from the group consisting of a character, symbol, pattern, color, and combination of a character, symbol, pattern, and color. Rather, as noted in the Office Action, the '944 patent discusses that the

¹ See '944 patent, Abstract.

² Id. at column 1, lines 54-62.

³ See Office Action dated January 25, 2008, page 16.

smart card 10 includes an interface 14 that transfers various data and control signals between the smart card 10 and an external system.⁴ Further, the Office Action asserts that the '944 interface is a support frame that incorporates a display for displaying symbols or logos of loaded applications.⁵ The '944 patent does not disclose that visible information is printed on the interface 14. For a non-limiting example, the visible information of the claimed invention does not change depending on the loaded applications and is different from the display for displaying symbols or logos of loaded applications. Thus, the '944 patent does not disclose a storage medium support frame configured to hold the storage medium and ***provided with visible information that is printed on the storage medium support frame.***

Moreover, it is respectfully submitted that the '706 patent fails to remedy the deficiencies of the '994 patent, as discussed above. The '706 patent is directed to a license-based cryptographic technique, particularly suited for use in a digital rights management system, for controlling access and the use of bore resistant software objects in a client computer. In particular, the Office Action cites column 5, lines 22-30 of the '706 patent for teaching a watermark that is embedded in software objects.

However, it is respectfully submitted that the '706 patent fails to disclose a storage medium having a data area configured to write content data thereto and an identifier area configured to write an identifier thereto, the identifier area being read only memory. Rather, as noted above, the '706 patent simply discusses a watermark that is embedded in software objects, *i.e.*, a watermark that is written to a data area. For a non-limiting example, it is noted that even if it is difficult to remove the watermark separately from content data, it is easy to remove the watermark with content data of a data area. On the other hand, in the claimed invention, an identifier is written to ROM and it is difficult to remove the identifier from the

⁴ See '944 patent, column 2, lines 20-24 and 36-44.

⁵ See Office Action dated January 25, 2008, page 16.

identifier area, *i.e.*, ROM. Thus, the '706 patent does not disclose an identifier area configured to write an identifier thereto, *the identifier area being read only memory*.

Further, it is respectfully submitted that the '706 patent fails to disclose a storage medium support frame configured to hold the storage medium and provided with visible information that is printed on the storage medium support frame and corresponds to the identifier, the visible information being visible from the outside and selected from the group consisting of a character, symbol, pattern, color, and combination of a character, symbol, pattern, and color. Rather, the '706 patent simply discusses that the watermark is embedded in digital data. The '706 patent does not disclose a storage medium support frame configured to hold the storage medium and *provided with visible information that is printed on the storage medium support frame*.

Thus, no matter how the teachings of the '944 and '706 patents are combined, the combination does not teach or suggest the storage medium and the storage medium support frame defined in Claim 1. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that Claim 1 (and all associated dependent claims) patentably defines over any proper combination of the '944 and '706 patents.

Amended Claim 4 recites, in part,

a storage medium having a data area configured to write content data thereto and an identifier area configured to write the identifier thereto, the identifier being read only memory;
and

a storage medium support frame configured to hold the storage medium and provided with the visible information that is printed on the storage medium support frame and corresponds to the identifier, the visible information being visible from the outside and selected from the group consisting of a character, symbol, pattern, color, and combination of a character, symbol, pattern, and color.

Amended Claim 11 recites, in part,

an identifier area configured to store a first identifier,
the first identifier area being read only memory; and

a data area configured to store

a second identifier;

content data; and

a replay program.

As noted above, the '944 and '706 patents, alone or in proper combination, fail to disclose the storage medium and the storage medium support frame recited in Claim 1. Thus, the '944 and '706 patents fail to disclose the writing apparatus and the computer readable storage medium of Claims 4 and 11, respectively. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that Claims 4 and 11 (and all associated dependent claims) patentably define over any proper combination of the '944 and '706 patents.

The present amendment also sets forth new Claims 16-21 for examination on the merits. No new matter has been added. It is respectfully submitted that these more detailed features are not disclosed or suggested by the applied references.

Thus, it is respectfully submitted that independent Claims 1, 4, and 11 (and all associated dependent claims) patentably define over any proper combination of the '944 and '706 patents.

Consequently, in view of the present amendment and in light of the above discussion, the outstanding grounds for rejection are believed to have been overcome. The application as amended herewith is believed to be in condition for formal allowance. An early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

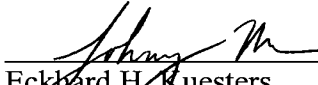
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